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THIS MUSEUM CURATOR ILLUSTRATES THE DELICATE ART OF BEING A WORKING MOM—MINI EMERGENCY INCLUDED!—WITH A COOL HEAD.

ERIN MONROE, 36
• Assistant curator of American paintings and sculpture at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, in Hartford, Connecticut
• Married to Mark Monroe, with two daughters—Abigail, 2, and Milly, 1
• West Hartford, Connecticut

10:30 A.M. “This morning I led a teacher workshop. It went well, but last night my colleague and I were still scrambling to research one of the paintings we presented. Gotta roll with it.”

10:49 A.M. “Oh boy. My husband called. Abby hurt her arm at day care—nothing serious—but he’s picking her up now. I need to leave work early to take her to the doctor and get checked.”

11:00 A.M. “I’m reviewing the annual report that will be distributed to trustees and members with Susan L. Talbott, the museum’s director. It highlights the year’s acquisitions and exhibits.”

12:35 P.M. “The Wadsworth is hosting an event next week. The chief curator, Robin Jaffe Frank, and I are going over this gallery’s prevalent themes to prep for our talks with the guests.”

3:12 P.M. “Back from the doctor’s—and feeling better! Abby had a dislodged tendon, which the doctor said is common for her age. He popped it back into place and she recovered quickly.”

6:15 P.M. “I picked up Milly from day care, then some dinner. After a crazy day, we can now relax with our dog, Ewek. Yes, we named him after the Dutch artist. And, yes, we’re total dorks.”

CHILD SUPPORT
“Many of my coworkers are new parents, too. It’s comforting to know that they can relate.”

OFFICE SPACE
“At home I have my hands full with the girls, so my job feels like my own time.”

REC CENTER
“I stock a few drawers with kid-friendly items—Mark’s old ties, empty lotion jars—and Abby and Milly find it an endless source of entertainment to pull everything out.”

Photographs by Emily Kinni

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